

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 EC BRU 04062 01 OF 04 222243Z  
ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15  
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-----222251Z 083893 /73

O 221830Z APR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3596  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 4 EC BRUSSELS 4062

FOR DEPARTMENT FOR STR,

USIA FOR IEU; IPS/PE - ALLEN

GENEVA FOR USIO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, OVIP

SUBJECT: STR STRAUSS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ROBERT STRAUSS'S  
PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS, APRIL 22:  
(BEGIN TEXT):

(HOFFMAN): ...AMBASSADOR STRAUSS MAKING HIS FIRST  
VISIT AS STR SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE TO BRUSSELS.  
HE'S GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH MANY OF THE PEOPLE HE WILL  
BE NEGOTIATING TRADE MATTERS WITH IN THE NEXT SEVERAL  
MONTHS AND HE HAS SPENT A DAY IN BRUSSELS TALKING TO PEOPLE  
AT THE COMMISSION. AMBASSADOR STRAUSS.

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(STRAUSS): FRIST, LET ME SAY I'M PLEASED TO BE HERE.  
AS MOST OF YOU KNOW I ENTER A NEW FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE WHERE I'M HAVING NEW EXPERIENCES, BUT I CAN  
ASSURE YOU HAVING A PRESS CONFERENCE IS NOT A NEW  
EXPERIENCE. IT'S JUST A FEW NEW FACES AND A FEW  
DIFFERENT QUESTIONS. I'M DELIGHTED TO BE HERE AND  
BRIEFLY REPORT TO YOU ON MY TIME HERE AND MY TIME IN

GENEVA WAS RATHER CONSTRUCTIVE. I SPENT A DAY AND A HALF IN GENEVA AND I ARRVED HERE YESTERDAY. WE'VE BEEN SEEING A NUMBER OF THE COMMISSIONERS. WE MET THIS MORNING WITH THE VICE-CHAIRMAN. WE MET WITH MR. GUNDELACH, HAD BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WITH DAVIGNON. WE MET WITH ONE OR TWO OTHERS (HINTON: VICE-PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP). WE HAD DINNER LAST NIGHT WITH VICE-PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP AND ON TODAY IN A FORMAL MEETING - WITH DINNER IN HIS HOME - AND I GUESS IF I WERE TO SUMMARIZE BRIEFLY FOR YOU WHAT I WILL SAY TO PRESIDENT CARTER, IT IS THAT IF I HAD ANY DOUBTS THAT THERE IS A BASIC AND VERY FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, THIS TRIP WOULD HAVE DISPELLED THOSE DOUBTS. I USED THE TERM WE WILL MOVE FORWARD IN PARTNERSHIP VERY EARLY IN A MEETING HERE AND I'VE BEEN FASCINATED AND PLEASED THAT I IN EACH SUCCEEDING MEETING THAT TERM HAD PRECEDED ME INTO THE ROOM AND EVERYONE WAS PLEASED THAT I HAD USED THAT COICE OF TERMS OR THAT EXPRESSION. AND I BELIEVE THAT IS TRUE. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES AND THE TEN PARTIES. THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY ITSELF OBVIOUSLY AND BETWEEN THEMSELVES AS WELL AS A GROUP BETWEEN OURSELVES AND THEM. BUT THAT DOESN'T REALLY AMOUNT TO VERY MUCH IN THE LONG RUN WHERE WE'VE ALL COMMITTED TO THE FACT THAT IT'S TIME TO DIG IN AND GET MOVING. I THINK THE MEMBERS THAT I TALKED TO SHARED MY VIEW AND I SAID TO THEM THAT FAILURE TO GO FORWARD IS NO LONGER STANDING STILL. BECAUSE FAILURE UNCLASSIFIED

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TO GO FORWARD IN SOMETHING POSIVIVE AS A DRAMATIC FAILURE, AND A DRAMATIC SET BACK TO THE CAUSE OF FREE TRADE. AND SO I DON'T, WE DONT'T, HAVE THE LUXURY, IF YOU WILL. WE CAN'T DO NOTHING TO ACCOMPLISH NOTHING. AND THE WORLD CAN ILL AFFORD CONTINUED PASSAGE OF TIME WITH NOTHING SUBSTANTIAL HAPPENING. SOMEONE COMMENTED TO ME THAT, WELL, A GREAT DEAL HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, AND I THINK WE CAN SAY THAT A BASE HAS BEEN LAID IN THE MTN TO DATE. BUT FOR THE NUMBER OF REASONS, AND I'M NOT TRYING TO FIND FAULT, FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, INCLUDING OUR OWN ELECTIONS AND OUR OWN PROBLEMS IN OUR COUNTRY, THE ECONOMY OF THE WORLD BUT FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS WE HAVEN'T DONE MUCH MORE THAN JUST LAID THE BASEFOR MOVING FORWARD AND SOMEONE IN RESPONSE SAID " WELL MAY BE WE'VE DONE BETTER THAN THAT." "WE HAVEN'T REALLY RUN INTO ANY DEADLOCKS," AND MY ANSWER WAS "HELL, WE HAVEN'T MADE ENOUGH PROGRESS TO BE DEADLOCKED ON ANYTHING" AND I THINK THAT'S TRUE. I REPRESENT A NATIONA THAT'S COMMITTED TO FREE TRADE.

I AM IN A CABINET AND SERVING AS SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE BY THE APPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT WHO IS NOT ONLY INTELLECTUALLY COMMITTED BUT IS EMOTIONALLY COMMITTED - AD THE SECOND TERMS IS PROBABLY EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE FIRST - NOT ONLY INTELLECTUALLY BUT EMOTIONALLY COMMITTED TO TRADE. AND THAT COMMITMENT COMES REALLY OUT OF HIS EXPERIENCE AS GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA WHEN WE WENT TO THE CORNERS OF THE WORLD SEEKING TRADE AND BUSINESS FOR HIS HOME STATE AND HE SAW WHAT IT DID, IN FACT, THAT IT LIFTED THE ECONOMY AND CULTURE AND LIFE OF THE PEOPLE OF THAT STATE.

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3597

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 4 EC BRUSSELS 04062

I GUESS THAT'S ABOUT ALL I HAVE TO SAY FOR AN OPENING STATEMENT. I WILL BE PLEASED IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, IF ANY OF OU HAVE.

QUESTION: AMBASSADOR STRAUSS, ID LIKE TO KNOW WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT AFTER THREE AND HALF YEARS OF STAGNATION IN THESE TALKS, THAT THINGS WILL GET MOVING NOW? WHAT IS IT ABOUT THIS ADMINISTRATIN THAT IS DIFFERENT, OR WHAT IS TI ABOUT YOU OR ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY THAT IS DIFFERENT NOW?

STRAUSS: WELL, LET'S TAKE THEM ONE AT A TIME. FIRST, LET ME SAY THAT I THINK THE SUMMIT IS GOING TO BE A DRAMATIC REAFFIRMATION OF THE ENCESSITY OF THE MTN MOVING FORWARD, AMONG OTHER THINGS IF IT DOESN'T PRESIDENT CARTER IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDINGLY DISAPPOINTED. AND THAT'S NOT MY OPINION, THAT IS A

FACT. AND I, AS HIS TRADE REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE  
EQUALLY DISAPPOINTED. I THINK YOU'LL SEE STATEMENTS  
COMING OUT TO THAT EFFECT. MOVING ON, I GUESS YOU  
REACH A TIME WHEN THINGS JUST HAVE TO GET WORSE  
BEFORE THEY GET BETTER AND I THINK THINGS HAVE  
GOTTEN WORSE. I THINK WE'VE HAD EXCUSES, SOME GOOD  
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AND SOME NOT SO GOOD. AS I'VE SAID WE'VE HAD ELECTIONS,  
WE'VE HAD FRAGILE ECONOMIES, WE'VE HAD UNEMPLOYMENT,  
WE'VE HAD INFLATION, WE'VE HAD ALL THE THINGS THAT  
MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR COUNTRIES TO COME TO GRIPS  
WITH NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA. THE EAST ROUTE WAS  
TO NOT GET TOO INVOLVED IN TAKING ON THE FORCES  
OF PROTECTIONISM. WE'VE SEEN, I THINK WORLD WIDE,  
A DETERIORATION THAT MUST BE STOPPED AND TURNED  
BACK. WHEN I TALK ABOUT FREE TRADE I'M TALKING  
ABOUT IT IN A BROADER CONTEXT, I THINK, THAN  
WE'VE TALKED ABOUT IT IN THE PAST. BECAUSE THIS TRADE  
HAS TO BE BALANCED AND THE THINGS WE DO IN OUR  
COUNTRY OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY, OF COURSE, THERE ARE  
DELICATE BALANCES WHEN YOU HAVE UNEMPLOYMENT,  
JOB PROBLEMS, PEOPLE OUT OF WORK, WHEN YOU HAVE THE  
ENERGY PROBLEMS, WHEN YOU HAVE THE POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS GENERALLY THAT A NUMBER OF THE  
NATIONS FACE.

BUT I THINK THAT THE TIME HAS COME WHEN THEY NO  
LONGER CAN WAIT. AND I ALSO THINK INsofar AS OUR  
OWN ECONOMY IS CONCERNED THAT WE ARE GOING TO  
IMPROVE IT A BIT AND WE ARE IMPROVING A BIT. AND SOME  
OF THE ECONOMIC STATISTICS I HAVE SEEN, I DO NOT  
KNOW WHETHER THEY ARE ACCURATE OR NOT, BUT THERE ARE  
AS RELIABLE AS ANY OTHER MEASURING STICK THAT I  
HAVE SEEN, HOW THAT THE ECONOMIES OF A NUMBER  
OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, WITH WHOM WE HAVE BEEN  
DEALING IN THE MTN ARE HAVING A BIT OF AN UPTICK.  
SO I THINK WE HAVE THAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO AND  
I FRANKLY THINK THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S LEADERSHIP,  
OUR ASSUMED ROLE OF LEADERSHIP IS GOING TO DRAW  
OTHERS -- THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY -- INTO THAT  
LEADERSHIP TASKS AND SHARE IT WITH THEM. SO IT IS  
I THINK WE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD. I GUESS  
I ALSO THINK SO BECAUSE I HAVE NEVER HAD THAT TYPE  
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OF JOB YET WHERE I WENT BACKWARD AND I ASSURE YOU  
I WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN THIS THING ON IF I DID NOT  
THINK THE TIME WAS READY TO MOVE. I THINK WE ARE  
MOVING. WITHOUT BEING PERSONAL ABOUT IT OR  
DISCUSSING IN TERMS OF PERSONALITY -- I DON'T  
THINK THAT'S TOO IMPORTANT WHO THE PERSON IS -- BUT I  
THINK THAT THE TIME MAY HAVE BEEN OR THAT THE TIME  
WAS RIGHT IN OUR COUNTRY FOR A BOB STRAUSS TYPE TO  
OCCUPY THE SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE ROLE, AND  
I TELL YOU WHAT I MEAN BY THAT. WE HAVE HAD EXTREMELY  
COMPETENT TECHNICAL PEOPLE INVOLVED AND HAVE THEM  
NOW, WE HAVE HAD EXCEEDINGLY COMPETENT TRADE  
NEGOTIATORS GENERALLY AND WE HAVE THEM NOW. BUT  
SOME OF THE PROBLEMS THEY FACED, THEY REQUIRED SOME  
ADDITIONAL GIFTS AND TALENTS, AND AS MOST OF YOU DO  
KNOW I'VE BEEN FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS ENGAGED IN  
POLITICS, RAW POLITICS. I HAVE A POLITICAL  
CONSTITUENCY. I HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR  
PRESIDENT, A RELATIONSHIP ON THE HILL, A RELATIONSHIP  
WITH THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, WITH THE TRADE UNION  
MOVEMENT, AND I THINK THAT KIND OF POLITICAL FORCE  
MAY BE NECESSARY IN OUR COUNTRY IF WE REALLY WANT  
TO MOVE FORWARD, SEEKING BOTH FREER TRADE AND  
SEEKING FAIRER TRADE. BY THAT I MEAN ASSURANCES THAT  
TARIFF AND PARTICULARLY NON-TARIFF BARRIERS THAT  
PERVADE IN ALL OF OUR COUNTRIES A BIT, OR WE  
COME TO GRIPS WITH IN A WAY THAT KEEP THE MARKETS OF  
THE WORLD AS OPEN TO THE PRODUCTS OF ONE NATION AS THAT  
NATION IS TO THE PRODUCTS OF THE REST OF THE WORLD.  
AND I THINK THAT ON THAT BASIS WE CAN GET SUPPORT,  
AND SUFFICIENT SUPPORT IN THE UNITED STATES TO MOVE.

QUESTION: I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS, AMBASSADOR STRAUSS,  
FIRST OF ALL, LAST YEAR THE OFFICIAL TARGET FOR THE  
MTN WAS TO COME OUT WITH SOMETHING MEANINGFUL BY THE  
END OF 1977. WHILE THAT IS PROBABLY NO LONGER  
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REALISTIC, BUT DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER TARGET IN MIND NOW?  
AND DO YOU THINK THAT THE SUMMIT WILL IN EFFECT SET  
THE TARGET? NUMBER TWO QUESTION: FROM YOUR  
DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA AND HERE TODAY AND YESTERDAY  
WHICH WOULD YOU SAY ARE THE AREAS WHERE YOU MIGHT  
ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL PROGRESS BEFORE VERY LONG?

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3598  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 4 EC BRUSSELS 04062

FOR: DEPARTMENT FOR STR, USIA FOR IEU; IPS/PE - ALLEN  
GENEVA FOR USIO

STRAUSS: IN THE FIRST PLACE, I HAVE A VERY  
SPECIFIC TARGET. THAT TARGET IS NOT WHEN TO CONCLUDE,  
BUT IS WHEN TO BEGIN, AND IT'S NOW. AND I KNOW  
ONE THING: WE WILL NEVER CONCLUDE UNLESS WE DIG IN  
AND COME OUT OF TRENCHES AND GET STARTED MOVING FORWARD.  
AND SO, THAT'S MY TARGET. AND WHATEVER DRIVE AND FORCE  
AND MUSCLE I PERSONALLY HAVE OR OUR NATION HAS,  
I HOPE WE CAN PUT BEHIND AN EFFORT TO GET SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS  
GOING FORWARD. WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC AREAS, I REALLY  
HESITATE TO GET INTO THAT. IN THE FIRST PLACE, I AM  
EARLY IN THE GAME AND I HOTE TO BE AN EXPERT TOO SOON.  
I WILL BE CALLING MYSELF AN EXPERT FAR TOO SOON TO  
SUIT MOST OF YOU ANY WAY, BUT LONG BEFORE I BECOME ONE  
I'LL ANNOUNCE MYSELF ONE. BUT I DON'T WANT REALLY  
TO GET INTO THAT ALTHOUGH I MUST SAY THAT ONE OF THE  
THINGS THAT HAS CONCERNED US IN AMERICA A GREAT DEAL  
HAS BEEN THE FEELING THAT IN THE KENNEDY ROUND  
AGRICULTURE WAS LEFT BEHIND. I AM NOT PREPARED TO  
PASS JUDGMENT ON WHETHER IT WAS OR WASN'T AND IF IT  
WAS, THE REASON FOR IT. I THINK THAT OUR CONVERSATIONS  
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TODAY AND THE CONVERSATIONS MR. GUNDELACH HAND IN  
WASHINGTON, JUST PRIOR MY APPOINTMENT, WERE ENLIGHTENING  
AND INFORMED AND PRAGMATIC AND RECOGNIZED THE FACT  
THAT AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS MUST BE  
TREATED TOGETHER. I THINK THERE IS A REALIZATION ON

THE PART OF EVERYONE THAT IS THE ONLY APPROACH,  
AND THAT I FIND VERY HEATENING.

QUESTION: THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF ARTICLES  
IN THE PAPERS SAYING THAT THE PRESIDENT'S NEW  
ENERGY POLICY IS GOING TO INVOLVE RESTRICTIONS ON  
OUR IMPORTS OF EUROPEAN CARS. DO YOU EXPECT THIS  
TO BE THE CASE?

STRAUSS: LET ME ANSWER THIS QUESTION IN A LITTLE  
DIFFERENT WAY IF I CAN. THIS IS AN EXCELLENT QUESTION  
AND A VERY TIMELY ONE, AND ONE OF THE THINGS I AM  
DOING OVER HERE IS HAVING THE FIRST DISCUSSIONS,  
AND YOU WILL BE THE FIRST TO REPORT ON THOSE DISCUSSION,  
YOU WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW. THE  
PRESIDENT'S FORMAL BILL HAS NOT GONE TO CONGRESS  
YET. THE LEGISLATION WILL GO IN A FEW DAYS. BUT  
THIS TRIP DOES INVOLVE THE INITIAL EXPLORATORY  
DISCUSSIONS, AND WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE FACT THAT  
THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY LEGISLATION HAS IN IT SOME  
MAMMOTH TRADE PROBLEMS. I JUST DIDN'T SAY TRADE  
PROBLEMS, MAMMOTH TRADE PROBLEMS. I THOUGHT WE HAD  
A LOT OF OTHER PROBLEMS TO DEAL WITH, OR ID DID  
EVERYTHING FROM TRADITIONAL PROBLEMS TO THE ZENITH  
CASE, TO WHERE DO YOU GO NEXT, AND NOW WE HAVE  
THIS ADDITIONAL. AND ALL I CAN SAY IS WHAT THE  
PRESIDENT SAID. HE HAS INSTRUCTED ME AS HIS  
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE TO BEGIN OPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH  
THE NATIONS AFFECTED TO SEE THAT SOME REASONABLE  
AND EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS ARE WORKED OUT. I REALLY  
CANNOT BE MORE PRECISE THAN THAT, BUT I THINK  
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THE FACT THAT THERE IS IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION  
OF THE PROBLEM, THE FACT THAT WE ARE GETTING ON TOP  
OF IT, THAT WE ARE OUT IN FRONT OF IT, SHOWS THAT THIS  
PRESIDENT IS SENSITIVE TO THE PROBLEMS, AND HE IS  
GOING TO SEE THAT I AM EQUALLY SENSITISED IF I AM  
NOT ALREADY.

QUESTION: WAS THAT PARTICULAR PROBLEM RAISED  
DURING YOUR TALKS IN BRUSSELS?

STRAUSS: WELL, IT WAS NOT RAISED, I RAISED IT BECAUSE  
THAT IS ONE OF MY REASONS, ONE OF MY PURPOSES, THAT  
IS ONE OF THE THINGS I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH IN GENEVA  
AND HERE: THE RAISING, THE SAYING THAT WE WILL BE BACK  
IN TOUCH. JUST STAY QUIET. DON'T GET ALARMED RIGHT  
NOW. THE BILL WILL BE COMING IN, WILL BE INTRODUCED  
NEXT WEEK, AND I'LL BE BACK IN TOUCH IN A FEW DAYS.

THAT WAS REALLY ABOUT ALL THAT COULD BE SAID INTELLIGENTLY  
AND ALL THAT ANYONE REQUIRED; AND I THINK THAT IN  
ITSELF AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S SENSITIVITY TO THAT,  
BOTH IN HIS OWN COUNTRY WITH RESPECT TO OUR AUTOMOBILE  
INDUSTRY AND ABROAD IN RESPECT TO TRADE PROBLEMS, SHOWS  
THAT HE REALLY HAS AN UNDERSTANDING OF THIS WHOLE TRADE  
AREA AND A SENSITIVITY TO THE PROBLEMS THERE.

HINTON: I MIGHT ADD, I THINK THERE WAS APPRECIATION  
IN THE COMMISSION FOR THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S  
REPRESENTATIVE WAS BEGINNING CONSULTATION BEFORE THERE  
IS A PROBLEM. THERE IS NO PROBLEM UNTIL THE LEGISLATION  
GOES IN AND GOES INTO PLACE, BUT THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS  
HAS BEEN STARTED IN ANTICIPATION. I'M SURE IT WORKS  
OUT, AS BOB SAYS, IN AN EQUITABLE AND REASONABLE WAY.

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O 221830Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3599  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 4 OF 4 EC BRUSSELS 04062

STRAUSS: ONE THING I MIGHT ADD. WE WERE TALKING  
ABOUT AGRICULTURE A MINUTE AGO. I HOPE I MADE CLEAR  
THAT WHE I SAID WE WILL FOLLOW TOGETHER I DID NOT MEAN  
NECESSARILY THE SAME SORT OF TREATMENT. I JUST  
MENAT ON THE SAME BURNER, BOTH FRONT. ANY OTHER  
QUESTIONS?

QUESTION: YOU SAID A MAMMOTH SERIES OF TRADE PROBLEMS.  
WE'VE MENTIONED ONE OF THEM, COULD YOU PERHAPS MENTION  
ANY OTHER?

STRAUSS: YOU DON'T NEED A HELL OF A LOT MORE THAN 7.5  
BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF AUTOMOBILE BUSINESS TO BE



MAMMOTH TRADE PROBLEMS.. I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN AROUND TO THINKING ABOUT ANY OTHERS THAT ARE IN THERE.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT THE TRADE DEFICIT BETWEEN THE COMMON MARKET AND THE UNITED STATES? WAS THAT BROUGHT UP TODAY?

STRAUSS: NO, IT REALLY WAS NOT BROUGHT UP TODAY. THERE IS A TRADE DEFICIT AND I DON'T REALLY KNOW THE ANSWER TO IT. SOMETIMES I AM TOLD IT IS A TEN BILLION UNCLASSIFIED

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DOLLAR ONE OR AN EIGHT BILLION DOLLAR ONE I DON'T EVEN THINK THEY CAN DECIDE ON WHAT THE DEFICIT IS. I KNOW IT GOES UP AND IT GOES DOWN AND I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT. I REALLY DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE SUBJECT MATTER WITH WHICH I AM DEALING, BUT I ALSO DO KNOW THIS: IT SEEMS TO ME THAT I'M NOT SURE I'M RIGHT ABOUT THIS - WHEN YOU START TO THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH TRADE GOES ON BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, IT'S PROBABLY SEVEN OR EIGHT TIMES (THE AMOUNT OF US-EC TRADE). THEN YOU PUT IT BACK INTO PERSPECTIVE, BUT THOSE ARE THINGS WHICH I OBVIOUSLY WILL BE COMING TO GRIPS WITH - THE PROBLEMS THE COMMISSIONERS HERE HAVE TO COME TO GRIPS WITH - AND WILL DO SO. YES, PLEASE.

QUESTION: WAS THERE ANY TALKS OF TEXTILES AND ESPECIALLY OF BRINGING OVER SPECIAL TYPES OF INDUSTRY TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

STRAUSS: NOT ON THIS TRIP. WE REALLY ONLY BRIEFLY TOUCHED ON TEXTILES: GET THE MFA RENEWED AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN, THE NECESSITY FOR DOING THAT WHILE WE HAVE A VEHICLE FOR BILATERALS. ...IT REALLY WAS TREATED IN JUST ABOUT THAT MANNER.

QUESTION: WHEN WILL YOU BE BACK, MR. AMBASSADOR.

STRAUSS: WELL, FIRST I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT THERE ARE A MULTITUDE OF PROBLEMS HERE. THAT WILL BRING ME BACK. SECOND, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I TOOK OFF AND HAD ONE OF THE MOST MAGNIFICENT MEALS I HAVE EVER HAD IN MY LIFE, LUNCH AT VILLA LORRAINE, AND THAT WILL BRING ME BACK. AND MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY OF THE THREE OF THOSE I HAVE A GRAND DAUGHTER WHO LIVES HERE AND SHE WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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BRING ME BACK. AND FOURTH, I HAVE MADE SOME RATHER NICE NEW  
FRIENDS HERE AND THAT WILL BRING ME BACK. AND FIFTH, I HAVE  
LEARNED TO TOLERATE AMBASSADOR HINTON AND THAT WILL KEEP  
FROM KEEPING ME AWAY (LAUGHTER).

END OF PRESS CONFERENCE.HINTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STR STRAUSS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ROBERT STRAUSS'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS, APRIL 22  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SOPN, US, XT, EEC, (STRAUSS, ROBERT)  
**To:** STATE USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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